ORIGINAL



E.01575A.09.04SD E.01575A.09.04SD 4 items

January 29, 2010

Arizona Corporation Commission Chairman Kris Mayes

Chairman Mayes,

I would like to state that I am **very** supportive of the efforts of SSVEC in running the new 69kV transmission line between Mustang Corners and Sonoita.

First, let us identify the year that SSVEC purchased the easements for this line – 1982. How many objections have you received from people who have purchased property along these easements since 1982 knowing full well that SSVEC could, and probably would, consider running new lines in this area sometime in the future? My point is that purchasing property knowing that there may be power lines run (which would, in all probability, include new poles) is like purchasing property along a railroad line and then complaining when the train blows its whistle.

I attended the meeting between the ACC and SSVEC held in Sierra Vista where Chairman, Kris Mayes stated that the ACC did not have jurisdiction over this line – my question is, if the ACC did not/does not have any jurisdiction over this line, why was Mr. Newman allowed to make a motion that an independent third party should conduct a study to be paid for by the Co-op, or more accurately, by the **MEMBERS** of the Co-op?

My concern is not only the fact that the ACC is allowing people to make undocumented accusations against SSVEC that are very damaging to the reputation of this Co-op, but also the exorbitant cost this campaign will have on the residents and area businesses because of this delay and continued harassment of an organization that has always worked to keep the cost of service to its members fair and reasonable. This continued delay is extremely detrimental, not only to SSVEC but to its members as well.

I am asking that you also support the efforts of SSVEC and let them do their job...let them serve the many members who do appreciate the fact that they strive to keep our electric service reasonable to all.

Thank you for your time.

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Cordially,

Kathy Smith Willcox, Arizona

Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

FEB - 3 2010

DOCKETED BY

AZ CORP COMMISSION

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1500 N. Circle I Road Willcox, AZ 85643 Phone: 1520-384-2272 1-800-200-2272

January 29, 2010

TO: Arizona Corporation Commissioners Paul Newman; Gary Pierce; Sandra Kennedy; Bob Stump and Chairman Kris Mayes

FROM: Willcox Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture Board of Directors

The Willcox Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture is in support of the efforts of SSVEC in running the new 69kV transmission line between Mustang Corners and Sonoita.

SSVEC is a valued Willcox Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture partner. The cooperative has always been one of the first to step up to the plate and help by allowing their employees to attend town meetings or serve on boards.

The City of Willcox has benefited from the support of the Co-op through their support of youth programs, scholarships through the Willcox Unified School system and the sponsorship of community town hall meetings. The businesses of Willcox also benefit by being able to call on the staff of SSVEC to do energy audits at no charge to the business.

There has not been a time that the Chamber has not called on SSVEC for help and has not been afforded that help. This is an organization that listens to the needs of its members and responds to those needs.

We urge you to stop wasting the time and money of SSVEC and its members and move forward to build this line now. A great deal of time has been exhausted already by a minimal few. Where is the consideration for the majority of members who feel the cooperative is a good neighbor, an honest organization that supports our communities and listens to its members?

Progress, Pride & Possibilities

## **Sheila Stoeller**

From:

Bruce Dockter [dockterbc@cox.net] Tuesday, February 02, 2010 9:08 AM

Sent:

Newman-Web; Pierce-Web; Mayes-WebEmail; Kennedy-Web; Stump-Web

Subject:

References Cases E-01575A-09-0453 and F-01575A-09-0453

We are proud members of Sulpher Valley Springs Electric Cooperative (SSVEC) and have been for the 31 years we have lived in Sierra Vista. We have great confidence in the employees, management, and directors of SSVEC to serve us as reliably and affordably as possible. They are a valued member of our community and Cochise County and the unfair characterizations of the Company as a poor company is totally unfair. They support numerous community activities and non-profits from the Boy's and Girls Club to the Student Concerts with the Sierra Vista Symphony. They support local schools with 20 scholarships a year, the Washington Youth Tour, and the Science Fair, all of which are paid from the SSVEC Foundation and not our rates. SSVEC operates in an open and honest environment and listens to its members.

We are writing in regard to the planned 69 kV line that runs from Mustang Corners down to Sonoita. SSVEC purchased the easements for this line in 1982 in anticipation of future growth when only one person lived on the line. Through the use of technology, SSVEC has managed to delay building this line for almost 30 years. The existing line has now reached, and at times, exceeded the maximum capacity and the members suffer significant loss of power and voltage drops. There is now no other alternative than to build a new line. Since SSVEC has purchased this easement, people have purchased property and built houses near this easement. At the time they bought and built, they clearly understood that eventually SSVEC would be constructing a line.

SSVEC has done a good job of trying to find the best solution for the Sonoita line, a judgment confirmed by the ACC's own staff, the administrative law judge, and the third party study. Over the past several years, SSVEC has looked at all of the alternatives to the line that have been proposed and have made some changes. Their studies, now confirmed by a professional, independent study ordered by the Arizona Corporation Commission, have determined that the route they chose was the best, most cost efficient route, solves all of the issues (low voltage and outages), and impacts the fewest people, and should be built immediately.

The professional engineering staff of the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) also reviewed this project and came to the same conclusion that SSVEC did. The Administrative Law Judge who heard the case (Jane Rodda) also agreed with SSVEC's need to build the line quickly and also said that the ACC didn't have jurisdiction.

Results of the independent third party study have been provided by SSVEC to you. The study was performed by Navigant, a world renowned engineering firm. That study agreed with SSVEC on the route of the line, the type of the line, and the need to begin building at once. The cost of this study was \$360,000, which we, as SSVEC members will be paying for.

The more time that goes on the more money this will cost SSVEC members. SSVEC is paying thousands of dollars in salary to answer voluminous requests for information from opponents of the case, and attorney fees also continue to rise. SSVEC conservatively estimates that every month this case continues it will costs SSVEC members at least \$10,000. Add to this the increase in material costs and the dollar amount is significant, a cost that all of our members will pay. And as members of the Cooperative, we object to the actions of the Commission in continuing to delay the necessary construction in spite of professional advice to the contrary.

Carol J. Dockter

**Bruce W. Dockter** 

## **Sheila Stoeller**

From:

Sent:

To:

hhinkley [hhinkley@cox.net]
Sunday, January 31, 2010 7:00 PM
Newman-Web; Pierce-Web; Mayes-WebEmail; Kennedy-Web; Stump-Web
Case E- 0157A-09-0453 and

Subject:

The negative statements made by opponents has distorted the view the commission has of SSVEC. SSVEC is a good cooperative, a good neighbor, and actively participates in supporting our community. It is responsive to the needs of the members. Harold Hinkley